

## OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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<http://www.cga.ct.gov/ofa>

sSB-1523

AN ACT CONCERNING THE TAKING OF WILDLIFE THAT  
DAMAGE CROPS OR BLACK BEAR THAT INJURE OR KILL  
LIVESTOCK.

### ***OFA Fiscal Note***

#### ***State Impact:***

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Department of Energy and Environmental Protection	GF - Cost	32,500	32,500
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits <sup>1</sup>	GF - Cost	13,231	13,231
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Revenue Gain	Minimal	Minimal
Judicial Dept. (Probation)	GF - Potential Savings	Minimal	Minimal
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential Revenue Loss	Minimal	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

#### ***Municipal Impact:*** None

The bill expands and revises the use of deadly physical force to kill a bear. The bill results in a cost to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) associated with monitoring crop damage, issuing additional permits, and disposing of wildlife. DEEP would require a part-time Environmental Conservation Officer, with a salary of \$32,500 and corresponding fringe benefits of \$13,231 (for a total of \$45,721) annually, beginning in FY 26. Also, there is a minimal revenue increase to the resources of the General Fund associated with issuing additional permits. It is anticipated the revenue increase would

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<sup>1</sup>The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 40.71% of payroll in FY 26.

be minimal.

Section 2 expands the circumstances in which a person may exert lethal force over wildlife resulting in a potential savings to the Judicial Department for probation and a potential revenue loss to the General Fund from fines.<sup>2</sup> On average, the marginal cost for supervision in the community is less than \$600<sup>3</sup> each year for adults and \$450 each year for juveniles.

### ***The Out Years***

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation, number of permits, and actual violations.

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<sup>2</sup> From FY 20 - FY 24, 10 charges were recorded and \$250 in associated revenue was collected under CGS § 26-80a.

<sup>3</sup> Probation marginal cost is based on services provided by private providers and only includes costs that increase with each additional participant.